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## Press Release

**Press Release Announcement – February 25, 2003 – For Immediate Use**  
*For the electronic press release, please visit [www.nass.usda.gov/pa/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa/)*

### Pennsylvania's Red Meat Production Up 4 Percent in January

**HARRISBURG** --- Commercial red meat production, dressed weight basis, in Pennsylvania during January 2003 totaled 110.3 million pounds, up 4 percent from January 2002, according to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service (PASS).

Beef production, at 122.1 million pounds live weight, was up 7 percent from January 2002. Total head slaughtered was 95,500, up 6,500 head from 2002, and live weight averaged 1,278 pounds, an increase of 3 pounds.

Veal production was 5.9 million pounds live weight, up 13 percent. Calf slaughter of 17,400 head was up 25 percent, and average live weight decreased 36 pounds to 340 pounds.

Pork production was 55.5 million pounds live weight, up less than 1 percent from 2002. Total head slaughtered was 223,500, a increase of 5,800 from last year. Live weight averaged 248 pounds, an decrease of 6 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production was 680,000 pounds live weight, up 51 percent from the previous year. The number slaughtered was 6,300, up 50 percent from the previous year. The average live weight increased 1 pound to 108 pounds.

Nationally, commercial red meat production in January totaled 4.08 billion pounds, dressed weight basis, unchanged from the 4.08 billion pounds produced in January 2002. U.S. beef production, dressed weight basis, at 2.29 billion pounds, was down 2 percent from the previous year. Veal production, at 17.9 million pounds, was up 6 percent from a year ago.

U.S. pork production totaled 1.75 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year and a new record high for January. Lamb and mutton production, at 15.9 million pounds, was down 10 percent from January 2002.